

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 4-8 and 52-55, and further, for noting that claim 19 would be allowable if it is placed into independent form. By the current amendment, Applicants amend claim 19 to place it in independent form, including substantially all the limitations of its base claim and intervening claim. As a result, Applicants submit that claim 19 is now in allowable form, and respectfully request such an indication from the Examiner.

In order to quickly advance the present application to issue, Applicants elect, without prejudice, to cancel claims 1, 10-18, 20-22 and 56. Cancellation of the claims is not to be taken as an acquiescence of the appropriateness of the rejection, but as a desire to quickly obtain allowance of the application. Further, Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit similar type claims in another application. In addition, Applicants submit it is no longer necessary to discuss the appropriateness of the rejections set forth against these claims, as they have been canceled.

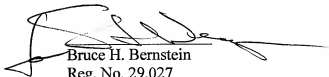
By the current amendment, only allowed claims 4-8 and 52-55, and objected claim 19 (which is herewith placed into independent form) remain pending in the application. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to re-confirm the allowability of the pending claims, and to pass the application to issue.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to

render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenji OSHIMA et al.



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